

Testimony

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Public Safety and Security Committee

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S.B. No. 323 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CRANE OPERATIONS.

Good morning Senator Hartley and Representative Dargan and other distinguished members of your committee. I am Mike Morrissey, from Glastonbury. I am also the Connecticut State Director to the National Propane Gas Association. Today, I represent our local trade association members who provide propane gas service to our state. I am here to comment on **S.B. No. 323 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CRANE OPERATIONS.**

On a daily basis, our industry installs and removes propane gas tanks at consumer locations. The majority of the larger tanks we handle are of a 500 or 1000 gallon capacity weighing 950 pounds to 1760 pounds respectively. In less frequent instances, our industry may install or remove tanks of 2000 gallons or less involving a weight of 3600 pounds or less. In many instances, the handling of these tanks is done with knuckle boom cranes affixed to the delivery service vehicle. The crane activity our service technicians engage in is very much like the crane activity of the building supply industry which the bill exempts.

Our industry does not affix things to buildings. We simply deliver goods to a job site which in our case is a consumer location. The tank is either dropped off or picked up here. This is an almost identical activity to delivering building materials to a job site. Because of this, we ask our industry be similarly exempt from the requirements of this bill.

Our industry has an exemplary safety record when it comes to handling propane tanks with cranes. We handle propane tanks with cranes every day and we do it safely. The service technicians who operate these cranes are well trained in this aspect of the job as well as many other aspects of their daily duties. In fact the propane industry has one of the best occupational training programs in the country called Certified Employee Training Program or more commonly known as CETP. This national training program is award winning and has standardized the training of employees nation wide. Service Technicians in our industry are also subject to OSHA, DOT and EPA training which covers cranes.

We would strongly support S.B. No. 323 if it was modified to exempt our industry when handling propane tanks of 2000 gallon water capacity or less.